

Message Text

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71

ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ADP-00 SCA-01 INR-10

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R 211531 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1175

INFO WHITE HOUSE UNN

BNDD WASHDC UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

US MISSION GENEVA 4545

UNCLAS PARIS 17103

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS : SNAR, TGEN, FR

SUBJECT : NARCOTIC ADDICT TREATMENT LAWS

REF : STATE 114195

WHITE HOUSE FOR CANDACE COWAN/ SAO

BNDD FOR GARFIELD

1. SCIATT APPROACHED MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) OFFICIALS
RESPONSIBLE FOR GOF DRUG- ABUSE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS AND FOR
CONTROL IN FRANCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL, NARCOTIC SUBSTANCES TO OBTAIN
INFORMATION REQUESTED REFTEL. FOLLOWING IS THEIR RESPONSE.

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A. HEROIN MAINTENANCE OF ADDICTS, ALTHOUGH THEORETICALLY AUTHORIZABLE UNDER LAW R-5189-1 OF 6 FEB. 1970, IS NOT PRACTICED IN FRANCE. A LIMITED RESEARCH EXPERIMENT ON METHADONE MAINTENANCE, HOWEVER, IS CURRENTLY STARTING UP UNDER MPH SUPPORT. THIS EXPERIMENT WILL EVENTUALLY ENCOMPASS FIVE CENTERS WITH A TOTAL OF FIFTY CAREFULLY-SELECTED PATIENTS. AT PRESENT ONLY TWO OF THE CENTERS HAVE STARTED THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM.

B. THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM WILL BE ADMINISTERED BY PHYSICIANS IN THE SELECTED CLINICS. THE CENTRAL COORDINATOR, WHO SHOULD BE THE POINT OF CONTACT AT LEAST UNTIL THE EXPERIMENT IS WELL UNDER WAY, IS M. ALAIN FOUCHE, SOUS, DIRECTION DE LA SANTE, MINISTERE DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE, 8 AVE. DE SEUR, 75007, PARIS.

C. ALTHOUGH NO NATIONALITY CRITERION HAS BEEN SET UP FOR ADDICTS IN THIS PROGRAM, THE PATIENTS WILL BE SELECTED BY THE PARTICIPATING PHYSICIANS ON BASIS OF PROBABLE ADAPTABILITY OF A METHADONE PROGRAM, OF PHYSICIAN'S KNOWLEDGE OF PATIENT'S HISTORY, AND OF PARENTAL CONSENT (FOR MINORS). THUS FOUCHE STATES EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THIS PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE FOREIGN NATIONALS.

D. THE REGULATIONS FOR THIS EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM ARE COVERED BY A PROTOCOL FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO THE INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA SANTE ET DE LA RECHERCHE MEDICALE (INSERM). A COPY OF THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN PROMISED AND WILL BE FORWARDED, ALONG WITH TEXT OF LAW R-5189-1, TO MS COWAN

E. NO INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH ON ENTRY OF ADDICTS TO FRANCE. MPH OFFICIALS NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES TO DETERMINE AN ADDICT UNLESS THE FACT OF HIS ADDICTION WERE "SO PRINTED IN HIS PASSPORT OR ON HIS FOREHEAD." A TOURIST MAY ENTER WITHOUT A VISA FOR A STAY OF UP TO 3 MONTHS IN FRANCE ON HIS PASSPORT.

F. IN THE FRENCH VIEW, SUBSTANCES, NOT PEOPLE, ARE CONTROLLED. OFFICIALS STATE THAT NO INDIVIDUAL CAN IMPORT NARCOTIC DRUGS (INCLUDING METHADONE) INTO FRANCE WITHOUT OBTAINING FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH A SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION, FURTHER (CATCH 22) SUCH MPH AUTHORIZATION TO AN INDIVIDUAL IS NEVER GRANTED.

2. IN THESE AS IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS GOF OFFICIALS DEMONSTRATED A STELLAR LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR METHADONE AS A VIABLE TREATMENT AIDE OF ANY SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL FOR FRANCE. REASONS GIVEN BY VARIOUS OFFICIALS INCLUDE 1) ONE DRUG OF ADDICTION SHOULD NOT BE SUBSTITUTED FOR ANOTHER

2) METHADONE COULD BE DIVERTED INTO ILLEGAL CHANNELS, CAUSING

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NEW ADDICTION PROBLEMS.

3) OFFICIALS UNSURE OF METHADONE SAFETY, AND.

4) METHADONE PROGRAMS "UNSUITABLE, UNADAPTABLE" TO FRENCH CULTURE AND LIFE STYLE. DESPITE THESE RESERVATIONS, THE MPH DECIDED TO PURSUE THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM DESCRIBED PARA 1 A IN ORDER TO EXPLORE ALL POSSIBILITIES IN ADDICTION, DRUG-ABUSE TREATMENT. FURTHER, ONE VOCAL FRENCH DRUG FIGURE WHO IS NOT IN THE MPH

(DR. CLAUDE- SAMI OLIEVENSTEIN, PARIS 10234 AND STATE 047956)
BELIEVES METHADONE COULD BE USEFUL AS A SUPPLEMENTAL AID IN SMALL
TREATMENT PROGRAMS (UP TO 20 PATIENTS) BUT HE IS ADAMANTLY
OPPOSED TO LARGE- SCALE METHADONE PROGRAMS. IRWIN

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To: BNDD WASHDC UNN
BONN
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